

October 29, 2021

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy Governor of Alaska P.O. Box 110001 Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

The Matanuska Telecom Association (MTA) would like to commend and thank you for your swift response to addressing Alaska's need to establish a Broadband Office.

Administrative Order No. 322, issued on May 6, 2021, authorized the creation of the Governors Broadband Task Force. The Order clearly defined the role and expectations of what the Task Force would evaluate, assess, identify, and ultimately provide you with recommendations on, by way of a report.

MTA fully supports the work of the Task Force and finds the Draft Report to be positive and comprehensive. The Task Force and subgroups have had dozens of meetings, reviewed countless slides and heard from numerous presenters representing all areas of Alaska and all angles of the broadband industry. The Draft Report provides key elements and recommendations that will assist in ensuring broadband service is brought to all Alaskans.

Additionally, MTA supports and concurs that the State must create a broadband office to accept and distribute federal broadband infrastructure funds upon the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Again, we thank you for the superb job you, your team and your Broadband Task Force have done to review broadband goals, policies, guidelines for state involvement in broadband infrastructure development, and equitable use of state funds to assist in the buildout of broadband networks. It is our hope that a Broadband Office can be established, for an appropriate period, to work objectively on broadband policy for the good of all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Burke, CEO

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Cc: Randy Ruaro, Chief of Staff, Governor Dunleavy
Hallie Bissett, Chair, Governor's Task Force on Broadband

